



Beaver County Emergency Services

Quarterly Newsletter - Vol. 13, Issue 2

2018 FEDERALLY EVALUATED EXERCISE

David Linkimer, BVPS Staff Nuclear Specialist
& Eric Brewer, BC ESC Director

SPRING 2018



Beaver County is busy preparing for another Beaver Valley Power Station federally Evaluated Exercise. In May and June, evaluators from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will observe exercise play at over 50 locations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio. Here in Pennsylvania, 27 Beaver County municipalities participate, staffed mostly by dedicated volunteers.

- *Exercise Planning & Training*
- *Director's Corner*
- *Boating Safety Program*
- *Hazmat Team Training*
- *EMC Updates*
- *Events Calendar*
- *Blood Drive Flyer*

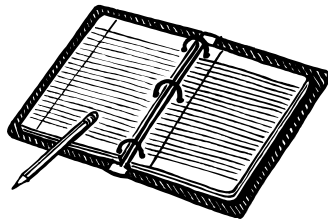
State, County, and Municipal EMA staff, with assistance from FirstEnergy, are updating emergency plans and conducting training in preparation for these exercises which culminate in the full scale exercise conducted on June 12. These exercises are required by law to be conducted every two years so that FEMA and the NRC can evaluate our ability to protect the health and safety of the public in the unlikely event that a large scale emergency happens at Beaver Valley. The federally evaluated exercise may come every two years, but planning and training is an ongoing process.



In January, Beaver County Emergency Services hosted a Radiological Emergency Preparedness Planning course in preparation for the 2019 Ingestion exercise in conjunction with the Beaver Valley Power Station. The training included representatives from various organizations, including FEMA, PEMA, Beaver County EMA, State of Ohio, State of West Virginia and Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Special guests included six representatives from the Japanese Government Nuclear Disaster Cabinet Office, The Japan Atomic Energy Agency and Washington CORE. These individuals attended the class and worked along side attendees to network and learn our planning and response capabilities and best practices in Beaver County as well as the Commonwealth.





THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Eric Brewer, Beaver County
Emergency Services Director

Swift 9-1-1 In Use

Beaver County's emergency notification system, Swift 9-1-1, was used to assist the Chippewa Police Department with a missing person event the day after Christmas. Swift 9-1-1 sends out messages via voice, text, e-mail, fax and social media to those registered in the system. The notification

call was sent out in a 3 mile radius of the Chippewa Police Department where the missing individual's vehicle was found. Within that 3 mile radius, 3,014 calls were sent, 227 text messages and 266 e-mails. The message reached over 1,200 accounts on Facebook and was retweeted several times. The subject was found not far from the police department in a small ravine where he could not be seen from the road. This is one example of how Swift 9-1-1 works. We encourage everyone residing and working in Beaver County to sign up for Swift 9-1-1 to be alerted to events taking place within their communities. You can sign up online by following the link from the [Beaver County website](#) or by texting SWIFT911 to 99538.

Planning & Training

As you'll read in this newsletter, planning and training have been at the forefront of our daily work at emergency services recently. This is to be expected as we look toward the June 12 federally evaluated exercise date, but in addition to our radiological preparedness, we continue to maintain our regularly scheduled training with our county Hazmat Team as well as respond to requests from school districts, faith based groups and other organizations seeking specialized training and planning assistance.

Fifteen members of The Beaver County Hazardous Materials Response team recently completed the Department of Energy Modular Emergency Radiological Transportation Training (MERRTT), which Jeff McKay further discusses in this newsletter. This course is a required training for the PEMA County Radiological Officer Certification as well as the County Radiological Response Team Certification. The course included lecture as well as hands-on practical exercises and was instructed through the State Fire Academy with integrated expertise from First Energy.

PA BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

Jeffrey McKay

Pennsylvania Safe Boating Class was held March 3, 2018 at the Hazmat garage with 21 people attending from Fire, Police, and Hazmat Agencies.



Officer Jim DeGori instructed along with PA Fish and Boat Commission Water Conservation Officers Jeremy Allen (Beaver), Mike Walsh (Allegheny) and Dave Raulfs (Washington County) providing great information. As part of the PA Water Rescue program, this class is a pre-requisite for the Emergency Boating Operations & Rescue class.



Do you need Pennsylvania Boating education? Regardless of your age, you need education if you will be operating a Personal Water Craft (PWC) in PA. You also need education if you were born on or after Jan. 1, 1982, and will be operating a boat over 25 hp in PA. Pennsylvania Boating Education Requirements state that anyone under the age of 11 years may not operate a vessel, including a personal watercraft powered by a motor of more than 25 horsepower. Anyone between the ages of 12 and 15 years may not operate a PWC with passengers 15 years or younger. For more information on Safe Boating, go to www.fishandboat.com.

As always, please know the rules of the road and stay safe!

BEAVER COUNTY HAZMAT TEAM TRAINING

Jeffrey McKay



Beaver County Hazmat Team members have been training with our Hazmat ID 360 kit. Hazmat ID 360 is a portable and rugged hazardous chemical identification system which provides fast and comprehensive in-field analysis of unknown solids, gels and liquids to emergency responders, military personnel and other users. The Hazmat ID is a highly specific tool that measures how chemical samples interact with infrared light. Each chemical has its own unique infrared fingerprint, which when analyzed by the Hazmat ID, is compared against an onboard library database to provide identification in less than 20 seconds.



Photo from 2017 RODEO radiological training event

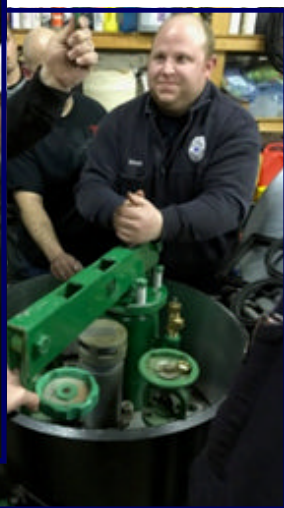
As noted earlier in the newsletter, Hazmat team members attended a 16 hour MERRTT class in January. MERRTT stands for Modular Emergency Radiological Response Transportation Training. This training provides Emergency Responders with fundamental knowledge and skills required to respond with confidence to incidents involving radioactive material. MERRTT provided classroom and hands on training with our radiation detection equipment.



Additionally, as part of a radiological event, or any hazardous materials incident,

decontamination becomes part of the response. As seen in the photo to the right, we reviewed our operation and checked our decontamination showers.

Most recently, the team has trained on a Tank Truck and Railcar Chlorine C Kit Lid trainer, photos at left. The kit provided hands on training for stopping leaks of liquid or vapors. Thanks are extended to BASF and John Grosskopf for letting our team borrow the lid trainer.



MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR UPDATES

Doug Humble

Local Emergency Management Coordinator Quarterly Training was conducted on January 23rd at Beaver County Emergency Services. Training centered on Storm Spotter Training for the National Weather Service's SkyWarn Program. We also discussed the upcoming BVPS exercise, reviewed earlier in this newsletter. This exercise would be a good opportunity for coordinators not involved in the exercise to observe, or better yet, to participate with a risk municipality. If you are interested, let us know, and we will find a risk municipality for you to exercise with. We also conducted a case study of a Beaver County nursing home evacuation and reviewed the positives and negatives associated with the response. Additionally, new PEMARS handheld radios were distributed to the coordinators present.



The 2nd quarter training will be Risk EOC Training conducted at each Risk Municipal Emergency Operations Center during this spring. We ask that each risk EOC check their PEMARS radio as it will be utilized during the exercise on June 12, 2018. The 3rd quarter training will be held on September 11, 2018 as usual at the Beaver County Emergency Services building.

NEWS & NOTES

- The following people were recent recipients of PEMA certifications. Pictured at right from top to bottom with Director Brewer:
 - Jeff McKay, County Advanced Certification
 - Kevin Whipple, Local Professional Certification, Chippewa Township
 - Dale McLaughlin, Local Basic Certification, Midland Borough



- Have you ever wondered what it looks like from the top of one of our radio tower sites? At left is the view from our Baden Tower looking towards Freedom.



MARCH 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- **March 8:** BVPS Offsite Meeting, 10 AM
- **March 8:** BVARA Meeting, 5 PM
- **March 11:** Spring Forward, Daylight Saving Time Begins
- **March 14:** Firefighters Association Meeting, 7 PM
- **March 17:** Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- **March 20:** Spring Equinox
- **March 21:** Chief's off Police Meeting, Noon
- **March 21:** Hazmat Team Training 6:30 PM, Garage
- **March 22:** BVPS Dry Run Exercise
- **March 30:** Good Friday Holiday, County Offices Closed

APRIL 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- **April 1:** Easter Sunday
- **April 2:** Central Blood Bank Blood Drive, 11 AM—6 PM
- **April 4:** Hazmat Team Leaders Meeting, 5 PM & Hazmat Team Training 6:30 PM, Hazmat Garage
- **April 11:** Firefighters Association Meeting, 7 PM
- **April 12:** BVARA Meeting, 5 PM
- **April 18:** Chief's off Police Meeting, Noon
- **April 18:** Hazmat Team Training 6:30 PM, Garage

MAY 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- **May 1 & 2:** BVPS Exercise, Out of Sequence Events
- **May 2:** Hazmat Team Training 6:30 PM, Garage
- **May 9:** Firefighters Association Meeting, 7 PM
- **May 10:** BVARA Meeting, 5 PM
- **May 13:** Mother's Day
- **May 15:** VOAD Meeting, 11 AM & LEPC Meeting 1 PM
- **May 16:** Chief's off Police Meeting, Noon
- **May 16:** Hazmat Team Training 6:30 PM, Garage
- **May 28:** Memorial Day, County Offices Closed

ALL EVENTS ARE LOCATED AT THE BEAVER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES CENTER, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

For more information on any of the above listed events, or to add your public safety event to future calendars, please email Sky at: smu@beavercountypa.gov

Economy Ambulance Blood Drive

Monday, April 2, 2018
Noon to 6 p.m.
Beaver County Emergency Services
351 14th Street, Ambridge, PA 15003



Join our Central Blood Bank Donor Rewards program! Donate blood. Save lives. Get rewards. All participating donors will receive a tote bag.

To make an appointment, please:

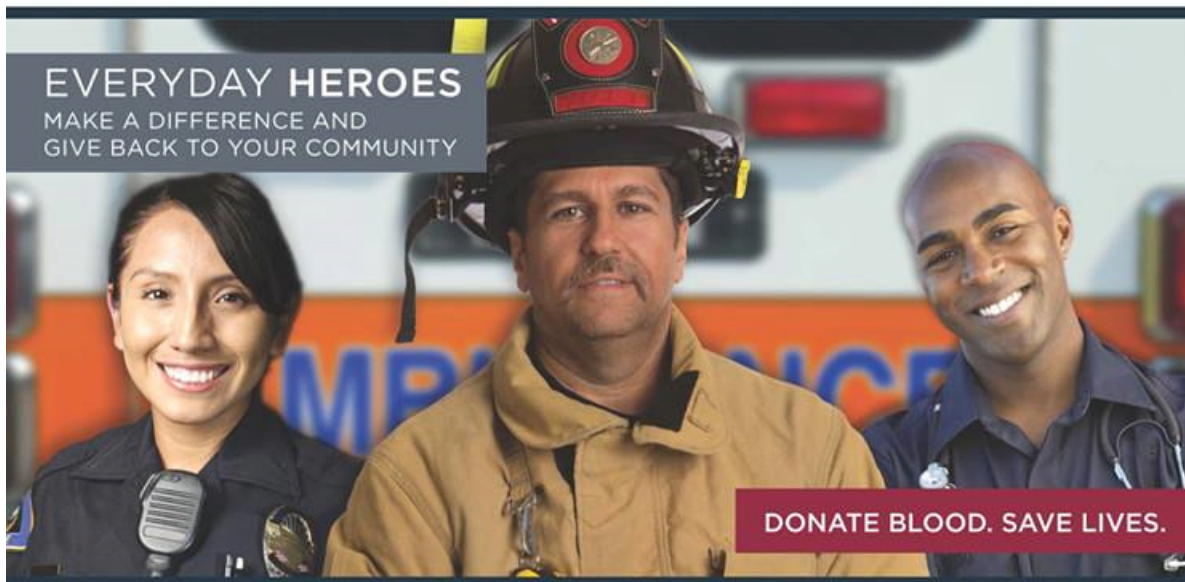
- Visit centralbloodbank.org, click Make an Appointment and search with group code C5990032
- Download the Central Blood Bank Mobile App for your smart phone, or
- Contact the Economy EMS office at 724-266-9111 to schedule an appointment

To save time, complete your health history questionnaire online on the same day as your donation. To get started visit www.centralbloodbank.org/donorpass.asp.

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome.

PREPARE FOR YOUR DONATION • EAT WELL • STAY HYDRATED • BRING ID

Promotion runs the date of the individual drive as listed above. When offered, all giveaways, prizes and tickets are non-transferable, nonrefundable, not redeemable for cash and while supplies last. Must be at least 18 years of age (16 - 17 years of age with signed parental consent) for actual donation, and due to gaming laws, must be at least 18 years of age to be entered into a random drawing. ITxM and Central Blood Bank employees and their immediate families are not eligible to participate. Void where prohibited by law. Please bring ID with you on the day of donation. Proper ID is required to donate blood. A Central Blood Bank or military ID, driver's license, passport, or employee or student ID with picture and full name are all approved forms of ID. Birth certificate along with a picture ID that includes the donor's full name will also be accepted.





EMERGENCY SERVICES

351 14th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003
724-775-1700

BEAVER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DANIEL C. CAMP III, CHAIRMAN
SANDIE EGLEY
TONY AMADIO

EMERGENCY SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION
ERIC BREWER, DIRECTOR
KEVIN WHIPPLE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
WILLIAM PETURES, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Beaver County Courthouse • 810 Third Street • Beaver, PA 15009

724-728-3934 • www.beavercountypa.gov

The Beaver County Emergency Services Newsletter is created and published by the Beaver County Emergency Services center.

Beaver County Emergency Services is a division of Beaver County government, under the authority of the Beaver County Board of Commissioners. Emergency Services manages the county's 9-1-1 dispatch operations center and also serves as the county's Emergency Management office, working under the direction of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) on emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery.

The Emergency Services center is also the home of the county's Hazardous Materials Response Team, the Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) and is the contact point for many other public safety organizations, including EMS, Fire, Police, and Municipal EMA services. Emergency Services works in conjunction with a number of county and offsite agencies to provide comprehensive public safety guidance and emergency support to Beaver County.

Want to contribute?
E-mail the editor,
Schuyler Mu , at
smu@beavercountypa.gov